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Letter dated 9 January 2008 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

1. Further to my letter of 28 December 2007 regarding the military acts of aggression carried out by the Chadian armed forces inside Sudanese territory, I should like to inform you that the Government of Chad has continued its acts of aggression and violations of the Sudanese borders over the past few days. In fact, the President of Chad himself, M. Idriss Deby Itno, has confirmed that his country's military actions were deliberate and that it would continue to pursue them with full force.

2. On the morning of 5 January 2008, in a speech delivered at Independence Square in the Chadian capital, N'Djamena, President Itno publicly declared that Chadian forces would attack positions inside the Sudan. The President unambiguously confirmed in that speech that aggression had become his Government's policy and fixed course. This policy is a clear violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations as well as a blatant violation of all the agreements signed between the two countries.

3. At exactly 0430 hours on 6 January 2008, a day after President Itno's aforementioned speech, the Chadian air force carried out those threats and bombed the Sudanese villages of Juwkar and Wadi Rati`, which are only 35 km from Geneina, resulting in great loss of life and property.

4. These Chadian attacks on Sudanese territory, by land and by air, are not the result of the latest developments. The Government of Chad has a long record of transgressions, violations and acts of aggression that are in stark and continued violation of the principles of good-neighbourliness and of the commitments it has entered into. An account of the provocations and chronology of aggressions over the past few months is provided below:

(a) On 6 October 2007, a Chadian helicopter flew over the city of Kulbus. Later that day, two fighter planes overflew that same area. This violation occurred again over that same city the following day.

(b) On 20 October 2007, a Chadian fighter plane breached Sudanese airspace over the Mastri area in the western sector.

(c) On 19 November 2007, four Chadian fighter planes, coming from Chadian territory, repeatedly overflew the Sudanese region of Um Dukhun at very low altitudes on more than seven occasions.

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(d) On 27 November 2007, a Chadian fighter plane flew at low altitude over Sudanese forces positions in the area of Tandalti in the western sector of the western region.

(e) On 28 November 2007, at 1030 hours, Chadian fighter planes thrice violated Sudanese airspace, over the city of Kulbus.

(f) On 28 December 2007, Chadian planes breached Sudanese airspace over the areas of Kadkuli and Rijl al-Harazaya, near the region of Mastri. Three helicopters bombed those areas at 0400, 0600 and 0740 hours, injuring a number of citizens and burning a number of farms.

(g) On 1 January 2008, at 2200 hours, Chadian planes flying from west to east breached Sudanese airspace over the city of Kulbus.

(h) On 6 January 2008, at 0420 hours, as is known, Chadian helicopters bombed the area of Wadi Rati` and injured seven citizens, five of whom subsequently died.

5. The Government of the Sudan, which has followed a policy of prudence and self-restraint, is exasperated and would once again like to bring these flagrant, unjustified aggressions by its neighbour, Chad, to your attention. It would also like to re-emphasize that allowing the Government of Chad to continue its aggression would severely undermine not only the efforts aimed at peacefully resolving the question of Darfur, but would also put the security and peace of the entire region in jeopardy.

6. Finally, I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Abdalmahmood Abdalhaleem **Mohamad**
Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Sudan
to the United Nations